

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GUATEM 01605 141900Z
ACTION ST-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SY-05 /017 W
-----150319Z 027382 /63

R 141746Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5197

UNCLAS GUATEMALA 1605

FOR A/OPR/ST/S INFO: A/SY/FO AND A/SY/T

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ASUP ASEC AFSP
SUBJECT: PROCUREMENT OF OFFICIAL VEHICLES IN FY-77

REF: DEPARTMENTS A-4548 AND 047868

1. EMBASSY HAS ONLY ONE VEHICLE SCHEDULED FOR REPLACEMENT
FY-77. VEHICLE IS 1973 PLYMOUTH SUBURBAN, INV. NO. 351003.
VEHICLE HAS BEEN IN USE BY EMBASSY FOR 25 MONTHS AND PRESENT
MILEAGE IS 33,791 OR 1,350 MILES PER MONTH. VEHICLE HAS BEEN
DEAD-LINED FOR PAST THREE WEEKS WAITING FOR REPLACEMENT PARTS
ORDERED FROM MIAMI.

2. THE EMBASSY VEHICLE FLEET, DUE TO SECURITY REQUIREMENTS,
IS IN A DEPLORABLE CONDITION. THE FLEET AT THE PRESENT TIME
CONSISTS OF:

- A. 671017 FOUR SEATER DODGE VAN. 1977.
- B. 351003 PLYMOUTH STATIONWAGON, 1973.
- C. 551004 PLYMOUTH STATIONWAGON, 1975
- D. 271021 IHC CARRYALL, 1973 WHICH IS TO BE REPLACED
BY 671018, DIDGE PICK-UP TRUCK.
- E. 471002 DODGE PANEL TRUCK, 1974.
- F. 671502 CHEVROLET, 4 WHEEL DRIVE CARRYALL, 1976.
- G. 671027S DODGE SPORTSVAN, 1977 (FOR MARINE GUARDS).

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3. BESIDES ABOVE LISTED SEVEN VEHICLES, EMBASSY HAS
ASSIGNED FOR SECURITY SIX 1971 CHEVROLET SEDANS AND ONE
1974 SEDAN. ALTHOUGH THE 1974 SEDAN WAS SCHEDULED TO BE
THE AMBASSADOR'S SEDAN, THE AMBASSADOR FINDS IT VERY UN-
COMFORTABLE BECASUSE THERE IS INSUFFICIENT HEAD AND LEG
ROOM. HE IS NOW USING A PARTIALLY ARMoured 1971 SEDAN
WHICH HAS 166,174 MILES. THE DCM VEHICLE. ALSO SECURITY,

IS A 1969 CHEVROLET WITH 174,589 MILES. EXCEPT FOR THE ECON COUNSELOR WHO OWNS A 1928 LINCOLN, THE DCM HAS THE DISTINCTION, MAONG THE OFFICIAL AMERICAN COMMUNITY, OF HAVING THE OLDEST VEHICLE.

4. THE EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT THE PRESENT FLEET OF SEVEN STATE VEHICLES BE AUGMENTED WITH TWO SEDANS IN THE TYPE-88 SERIES. PREFERABLY FORD OR CHEVROLET WITH STANDARD AND SY EQUIPMENT. AT THE PRESENT TIME, DISREGARDING THE SECURITY SEDANS, IF THE COUNSELOR FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS WERE TO CALL AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, HE WOULD HAVE THE CHOICE BETWEEN A STATIONWAGON, PANEL TRUCK OR PICK-UP.

5. THE EMBASSY ALSO RECOMMENDS THAT THE SECURITY VEHICLES, ALL OF WHICH ARE OVER 150,000 MILES, BE CONSIDERED FOR REPLACEMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE AMBASSADOR'S AND DCM'S VEHICLES, PLUS THEIR FOLLOW CARS, SHOULD BE REPLACED IN FY-77. ALL FOUR OF THESE VEHICLES HAVE AN AVERAGE OF 175,000 MILES.

6. OF THE 14 VEHICLES LISTED IN THIS MESSAGE, TOAL MILEAGE FOR MOTH OF JANUARY WAS 14,057 OR 1,004 MILES PER VEHICLE. THIS ALSO INCLUDES ONE VEHICLE THAT WAS DEAD-LINED FOR THE ENTIRE MONTH, ANOTHER VEHICLE THAT JUST ARRIVED AND ACCUMULATED ONLY 67 MILES, AND A VAN THAT IS USED APPROXIMATELY 500 MILES PER MONTH BECAUSE IT CAN ONLY BE USED FOR PICK-UP AND DELIVERY OF MAIL, SUPPLIES AND SOME EQUIPMENT.

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